

Date: January 10, 2001

Dear Colleague,

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR VACANCY FOR INDUSTRY/UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE  
RESEARCH CENTERS (I/UCRC) PROGRAM**

We are pleased to announce an opening for a senior-level engineering researcher/educator to serve as Program Director for the Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers (I/UCRC) Program, within the Engineering Education and Centers (EEC) Division, Directorate for Engineering. The Program Director position is a Temporary Appointment for one to three years under the Visiting Scientist/Engineer Program, the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (VSE or IPA "rotator" positions), or as a Temporary Federal Appointee. The desired starting date for the position is May 1, 2001.

The I/UCRCs develop long-term partnerships among industry, academe, and government. The centers are catalyzed by a small investment from NSF and are primarily supported by center members, with NSF taking a supporting role in their development and evolution. I/UCRCs stimulate highly leveraged industry/university cooperation by focusing on fundamental research recommended by Industrial Advisory Boards. Each center is established to conduct research that is of interest to both the industry and the university with which it is involved, with the provision that the industry must offer major support to the center at all times. The centers rely primarily on the involvement of graduate students in their research projects, thus developing students who are knowledgeable in industrially relevant research. A detailed description of the activities of the I/UCRCs may be found at <http://eng.nsf.gov/eec>. The Division also provides support for the Engineering Research Centers, efforts to strengthen engineering curricula and increase the diversity of the engineering workforce.

The individual selected will oversee several of the Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers and coordinate the activities of these centers with the research programs funded by other ENG Divisions, other divisions of the NSF and other relevant agencies. There are currently over 50 I/UCRCs. The Program Director should have a doctoral degree in engineering or in a field of science with university/industry interaction experience. This position encompasses the following activities:

- Specific oversight of the I/UCRCs.
- Development of strategies to promote synergy among all of the I/UCRCs and other programs within and outside the NSF.
- Management of review panels for proposals submitted to the I/UCRC program.

The successful applicant will provide oversight for and guidance to the assigned I/UCRCs and identify and lead teams of expert reviewers to determine the quality of their performance for renewal or termination. The guidance will encompass university/industry interaction, research and center management, industrial collaboration and education. The incumbent will also be involved in the peer review of proposals for new center awards.

Experience managing cross-disciplinary and multi-university teams of researchers in an academic context (in academe or as an industrial or government manager of industry/university research programs); experience with university/industry collaboration; an understanding of the interface between R&D and product development; and the ability to work in and manage teams are all highly desirable. An interest in working with the scientific and engineering community to enhance the effectiveness of research and educational programs to produce graduates who are more effective in practice is also important, as is both depth and breadth of technical expertise.

This Program Director position at the National Science Foundation provides a challenging experience and an excellent opportunity to encourage and support scientific and engineering research and education. The individual will work with other Program Directors in formulating research strategies, developing cooperation among government, academia, and industry, fostering outreach to underrepresented groups, and will provide leadership within NSF and the research community. The position requires a doctorate plus a minimum of six years of academic, government, or industry experience. We are very interested in attracting qualified women and underrepresented minority candidates to this position in EEC.

We would appreciate any nominations that you may have for suitable candidates. Should you or your colleagues be interested in this position, please contact the search committee coordinator, Mary F. Poats ([mpoats@nsf.gov](mailto:mpoats@nsf.gov)) and forward a curriculum vita to her by February 1, 2001. Applications will be reviewed immediately after this date, though the position will remain open until filled.

For questions or further information, please contact:

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Sincerely,

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